
HOUSE BILL 2072

State of Washington 60th Legislature 2007 Regular Session

By Representatives Wallace, Haigh, McDermott, Hunter, Sells, Linville, Pedersen, Kenney, Moeller, Morrell, O'Brien, Conway, Eddy, Goodman, Simpson, Hudgins and Ormsby

Read first time 02/07/2007. Referred to Committee on Higher Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to increasing access to higher education; amending
2 RCW 28B.92.060, 28B.92.080, 28B.15.820, 28B.50.030, and 28B.76.250;
3 adding new sections to chapter 28B.15 RCW; adding a new section to
4 chapter 28B.92 RCW; adding new sections to chapter 28B.50 RCW; adding
5 a new chapter to Title 28B RCW; creating new sections; making
6 appropriations; providing an expiration date; and declaring an
7 emergency.

8 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

9 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The legislature finds that access to
10 higher education is of paramount importance to the citizens of the
11 state of Washington. However, the legislature further finds that the
12 following three factors are creating barriers to access for students:

13 (a) Tuition increases have varied dramatically over the last
14 decade, making the cost of postsecondary attendance unpredictable for
15 students and families.

16 (b) There are at least thirty separate state and federal programs
17 providing direct financial aid or tax benefits to individuals seeking
18 postsecondary education, in addition to institutional aid, private
19 scholarships, and other programs. The system is complicated and

1 difficult to understand, with the unfortunate effect of discouraging
2 some low-income students from even applying to college. Additionally,
3 some students are not able to access enough financial assistance to
4 make postsecondary education affordable.

5 (c) Students frequently must repeat college-level coursework when
6 transferring from one institution of higher education to another.

7 (2) Through implementing of a complementary and coordinated set of
8 policies around tuition, financial aid, and student transitions, the
9 legislature intends to make access to higher education a top priority.

10 **PART 1**

11 **TUITION POLICY**

12 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 101.** A new section is added to chapter 28B.15
13 RCW to read as follows:

14 **TUITION--FUNDING LEVELS--LIMITATIONS.** (1) Beginning with the
15 2007-08 academic year and ending with the 2016-17 academic year,
16 tuition fees charged to full-time resident undergraduate students may
17 increase no greater than seven percent over the previous academic year
18 in any institution of higher education. Annual reductions or increases
19 in full-time tuition fees for resident undergraduate students shall be
20 as provided in the omnibus appropriations act, within the seven percent
21 increase limit established in this section. To the extent that state
22 appropriations combined with tuition and fee revenues are insufficient
23 to achieve the total per-student funding goals established in
24 subsection (2) of this section, the legislature may revisit state
25 appropriations, authorized enrollment levels, and changes in tuition
26 fees for any given fiscal year.

27 (2) The state shall adopt as its goal total per-student funding
28 levels, from state appropriations plus tuition and fees, of at least
29 the sixtieth percentile of total per-student funding at similar public
30 institutions of higher education in the global challenge states. The
31 office of financial management shall develop a funding trajectory for
32 each four-year institution of higher education and for the community
33 and technical college system as a whole that when combined with tuition
34 and fees revenue allows the state to achieve its funding goal for each
35 four-year institution and the community and technical college system as
36 a whole no later than fiscal year 2017. The state shall not reduce

1 enrollment levels below fiscal year 2007 budgeted levels in order to
2 improve or alter the per-student funding amount at any four-year
3 institution of higher education or the community and technical college
4 system as a whole. The state recognizes that each four-year
5 institution of higher education and the community and technical college
6 system as a whole have different funding requirements to achieve
7 desired performance levels, and that increases to the total per-student
8 funding amount may need to exceed the minimum funding goal.

9 (3) By September 1st of each year beginning in 2008, the office of
10 financial management shall report to the governor, the higher education
11 coordinating board, and appropriate committees of the legislature with
12 updated estimates of the total per-student funding level that
13 represents the sixtieth percentile of funding for comparable
14 institutions of higher education in the global challenge states, and
15 the progress toward that goal that was made for each of the public
16 institutions of higher education.

17 (4) As used in this section, "global challenge states" are the top
18 performing states on the new economy index published by the progressive
19 policy institute as of the effective date of this section. The new
20 economy index ranks states on indicators of their potential to compete
21 in the new economy. At least once every five years, the office of
22 financial management shall determine if changes to the list of global
23 challenge states are appropriate. The office of financial management
24 shall report its findings to the governor and the legislature.

25 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 102.** A new section is added to chapter 28B.15
26 RCW to read as follows:

27 BILLING DISCLOSURES TO STUDENTS. In addition to the requirement in
28 RCW 28B.76.300(4), institutions of higher education shall disclose to
29 their undergraduate resident students on the tuition billing statement,
30 in dollar figures for a full-time equivalent student: (1) The full
31 cost of instruction, (2) the amount collected from student tuition and
32 fees, and (3) the difference between the amounts for the full cost of
33 instruction and the student tuition and fees, noting that the
34 difference between the cost and tuition was paid by state tax funds and
35 other moneys.

1 ~~(4) ((In computing financial need, the board shall determine a~~
2 ~~maximum student expense budget allowance, not to exceed an amount equal~~
3 ~~to the total maximum student expense budget at the public institutions~~
4 ~~plus the current average state appropriation per student for operating~~
5 ~~expense in the public institutions.~~

6 ~~(5))~~ The state need grant award for an individual student shall be
7 the base grant, appropriate for the educational sector attended, and a
8 dependent care allowance, if applicable, adjusted for the student's
9 family income and rate of enrollment.

10 (5) The maximum base grant for students shall:

11 (a) Be established based on the representative average resident
12 tuition, service, and activity fees charged within each public sector
13 of higher education. The average is to be determined annually by the
14 higher education coordinating board. The amount of the base grant may
15 be less than the actual average if the higher education coordinating
16 board finds it necessary to be able to serve the expected number of
17 eligible students;

18 (b) Not exceed the actual tuition and fees charged to the eligible
19 student; and

20 (c) Be the same for students attending private four-year
21 institutions of higher education and students attending the public
22 four-year research universities. The base grant for students attending
23 private vocational institutions shall be the same as students attending
24 the public community and technical colleges.

25 (6)(a) For full-time students, the amount of the state need grant
26 shall be as follows:

27 (i) Students with family incomes less than or equal to fifty
28 percent of the state's median family income shall receive the maximum
29 award;

30 (ii) Students whose incomes are greater than fifty percent, but
31 less than or equal to sixty-five percent, of the state's median family
32 income shall receive seventy-five percent of the maximum award;

33 (iii) Students whose incomes are greater than sixty-five percent,
34 but less than or equal to seventy-five percent, of the state's median
35 family income shall receive fifty percent of the maximum award;

36 (iv) Students whose incomes are greater than seventy-five percent,
37 but less than or equal to eighty-five percent, of the state's median

1 family income shall receive twenty-five percent of the maximum award;
2 and

3 (v) Each eligible grant recipient must receive the maximum grant
4 award for which he or she is eligible, unless the award would exceed
5 the student's overall need or the institution's approved gift equity
6 packaging policy.

7 (b) Students attending less than full time shall have their grants
8 prorated based on attendance.

9 (7)(a) A student who is enrolled in three to six credit-bearing
10 quarter credits, or the equivalent semester credits, may receive a
11 grant for up to one academic year before beginning a program that leads
12 to a degree or certificate.

13 (b) An eligible student enrolled on a less-than-full-time basis
14 shall receive a prorated portion of his or her state need grant for any
15 academic period in which he or she is enrolled on a less-than-full-time
16 basis, as long as funds are available.

17 (c) An institution of higher education may award a state need grant
18 to an eligible student on a provisional basis before the student
19 completes the required free application for federal student aid if:

20 (i) The student has not previously received a state need grant from
21 that institution;

22 (ii) The institution has conducted a review of the student's
23 financial condition, and the financial condition of the student's
24 family if the student is a dependent student, and has determined that
25 the student is likely eligible for a state need grant; and

26 (iii) The student has signed a document attesting to the fact that
27 the financial information the student provided to the institution is
28 accurate and complete and that the student agrees to repay the
29 institution for the grant amount if the student is subsequently deemed
30 to be ineligible for a state need grant.

31 (d) An institution of higher education that awards a student a
32 state need grant on a provisional basis shall require the student to
33 submit his or her free application for federal student aid by no later
34 than the forty-fifth day of the quarter or sixtieth day of the semester
35 in which the student received the provisional grant.

36 (e) A student who fails to submit the free application for federal
37 student aid by the forty-fifth day of the quarter or the sixtieth day
38 of the semester in which the student receives a provisional grant shall

1 be deemed to have been ineligible to receive a state need grant for
2 that quarter or semester, and shall repay the amount of the grant. In
3 the case of exceptional circumstances, a school may extend the time
4 period in which a particular student must submit the free application
5 for federal student aid. However, that time period may not be extended
6 beyond the last day of the quarter or semester in which the student
7 received a provisional grant.

8 (f) No student who is required to repay a provisional state need
9 grant is eligible to receive a subsequent state need grant until the
10 student has repaid the provisional grant in full.

11 (8) As used in this section, "former foster youth" means a person
12 who is at least eighteen years of age, but not more than twenty-four
13 years of age, who was a dependent of the department of social and
14 health services at the time he or she attained the age of eighteen.

15 **PART 3**

16 **EXPANDING THE STATE NEED GRANT TO STUDENTS ENROLLED FOR THREE**
17 **OR MORE CREDITS**

18 **Sec. 301.** RCW 28B.92.080 and 2004 c 275 s 39 are each amended to
19 read as follows:

20 For a student to be eligible for a state need grant a student must:

21 (1) Be a "needy student" or "disadvantaged student" as determined
22 by the board in accordance with RCW 28B.92.030 (3) and (4).

23 (2) Have been domiciled within the state of Washington for at least
24 one year.

25 (3) Be enrolled or accepted for enrollment (~~on at least a half-~~
26 ~~time basis~~) for at least three quarter credits or the equivalent
27 semester credits at an institution of higher education in Washington as
28 defined in RCW 28B.92.030(1).

29 (4) Have complied with all the rules and regulations adopted by the
30 board for the administration of this chapter.

31 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 302.** A new section is added to chapter 28B.92
32 RCW to read as follows:

33 Institutions of higher education are encouraged to review their
34 policies and procedures regarding financial aid for students taking a
35 less-than-half-time course load, and to implement policies and

1 procedures providing students taking a less-than-half-time course load
2 with the same access to institutional aid, including tuition waivers,
3 as provided to students enrolled half time or more.

4 **Sec. 303.** RCW 28B.15.820 and 2004 c 275 s 66 are each amended to
5 read as follows:

6 (1) Each institution of higher education, including technical
7 colleges, shall deposit a minimum of three and one-half percent of
8 revenues collected from tuition and services and activities fees in an
9 institutional financial aid fund that is hereby created and which shall
10 be held locally. Moneys in the fund shall be used only for the
11 following purposes: (a) To make guaranteed long-term loans to eligible
12 students as provided in subsections (3) through (8) of this section;
13 (b) to make short-term loans as provided in subsection (9) of this
14 section; or (c) to provide financial aid to needy students as provided
15 in subsection (10) of this section.

16 (2) An "eligible student" for the purposes of subsections (3)
17 through (8) and (10) of this section is a student registered for at
18 least (~~six~~) three credit hours or the equivalent, who is eligible for
19 resident tuition and fee rates as defined in RCW 28B.15.012 and
20 28B.15.013, and who is a "needy student" as defined in RCW 28B.92.030.

21 (3) The amount of the guaranteed long-term loans made under this
22 section shall not exceed the demonstrated financial need of the
23 student. Each institution shall establish loan terms and conditions
24 which shall be consistent with the terms of the guaranteed loan program
25 established by 20 U.S. Code Section 1071 et seq., as now or hereafter
26 amended. All loans made shall be guaranteed by the Washington student
27 loan guaranty association or its successor agency. Institutions are
28 hereby granted full authority to operate as an eligible lender under
29 the guaranteed loan program.

30 (4) Before approving a guaranteed long-term loan, each institution
31 shall analyze the ability of the student to repay the loan based on
32 factors which include, but are not limited to, the student's
33 accumulated total education loan burdens and the employment
34 opportunities and average starting salary characteristics of the
35 student's chosen fields of study. The institution shall counsel the
36 student on the advisability of acquiring additional debt, and on the
37 availability of other forms of financial aid.

1 (5) Each institution is responsible for collection of guaranteed
2 long-term loans made under this section and shall exercise due
3 diligence in such collection, maintaining all necessary records to
4 insure that maximum repayments are made. Institutions shall cooperate
5 with other lenders and the Washington student loan guaranty
6 association, or its successor agency, in the coordinated collection of
7 guaranteed loans, and shall assure that the guarantability of the loans
8 is not violated. Collection and servicing of guaranteed long-term
9 loans under this section shall be performed by entities approved for
10 such servicing by the Washington student loan guaranty association or
11 its successor agency: PROVIDED, That institutions be permitted to
12 perform such servicing if specifically recognized to do so by the
13 Washington student loan guaranty association or its successor agency.
14 Collection and servicing of guaranteed long-term loans made by
15 community colleges under subsection (1) of this section shall be
16 coordinated by the state board for community and technical colleges and
17 shall be conducted under procedures adopted by the state board.

18 (6) Receipts from payment of interest or principal or any other
19 subsidies to which institutions as lenders are entitled, that are paid
20 by or on behalf of borrowers of funds under subsections (3) through (8)
21 of this section, shall be deposited in each institution's financial aid
22 fund and shall be used to cover the costs of making the guaranteed
23 long-term loans under this section and maintaining necessary records
24 and making collections under subsection (5) of this section: PROVIDED,
25 That such costs shall not exceed five percent of aggregate outstanding
26 loan principal. Institutions shall maintain accurate records of such
27 costs, and all receipts beyond those necessary to pay such costs, shall
28 be deposited in the institution's financial aid fund.

29 (7) The governing boards of the state universities, the regional
30 universities, and The Evergreen State College, and the state board for
31 community and technical colleges, on behalf of the community colleges
32 and technical colleges, shall each adopt necessary rules and
33 regulations to implement this section.

34 (8) First priority for any guaranteed long-term loans made under
35 this section shall be directed toward students who would not normally
36 have access to educational loans from private financial institutions in
37 Washington state, and maximum use shall be made of secondary markets in
38 the support of loan consolidation.

1 (9) Short-term loans, not to exceed one year, may be made from the
2 institutional financial aid fund to students enrolled in the
3 institution. No such loan shall be made to any student who is known by
4 the institution to be in default or delinquent in the payment of any
5 outstanding student loan. A short-term loan may be made only if the
6 institution has ample evidence that the student has the capability of
7 repaying the loan within the time frame specified by the institution
8 for repayment.

9 (10) Any moneys deposited in the institutional financial aid fund
10 that are not used in making long-term or short-term loans may be used
11 by the institution for locally-administered financial aid programs for
12 needy students, such as need-based institutional employment programs or
13 need-based tuition and fee scholarship or grant programs. These funds
14 shall be used in addition to and not to replace institutional funds
15 that would otherwise support these locally-administered financial aid
16 programs. First priority in the use of these funds shall be given to
17 needy students who have accumulated excessive educational loan burdens.
18 An excessive educational loan burden is a burden that will be difficult
19 to repay given employment opportunities and average starting salaries
20 in the student's chosen fields of study. Second priority in the use of
21 these funds shall be given to needy single parents, to assist these
22 students with their educational expenses, including expenses associated
23 with child care and transportation.

24 PART 4

25 IMPLEMENTING POSTSECONDARY OPPORTUNITIES

26 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 401.** The legislature finds that:

27 (1) The economic trends of globalization and technological change
28 are increasing the demand for higher and differently skilled workers
29 than in the past;

30 (2) Increasing Washington's economic competitiveness requires
31 increasing the supply of skilled workers in the state;

32 (3) Improving the labor market competitiveness of all Washington
33 residents requires that all residents have access to postsecondary
34 education; and

35 (4) Community and technical college workforce training programs and
36 Washington state apprenticeship and training council-approved

1 apprenticeship programs provide effective and efficient pathways for
2 people to enter high wage, high skill careers while also meeting the
3 needs of the economy.

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 402.** A new section is added to chapter 28B.50
5 RCW to read as follows:

6 (1) The college board shall develop and implement a workforce
7 education program known as the opportunity grant program to provide
8 funding for students enrolled at qualified institutions of higher
9 education in opportunity grant-eligible programs of study as described
10 in section 404 of this act. Students enrolled in the opportunity grant
11 program are eligible for:

12 (a) Funding for tuition and mandatory fees at the public community
13 and technical college rate, prorated if the credit load is less than
14 full time, paid directly to the educational institution; and

15 (b) An additional one thousand dollars per academic year for books,
16 tools, and supplies, prorated if the credit load is less than full
17 time.

18 (2) Funding under subsection (1)(a) and (b) of this section is
19 limited to a maximum forty-five credits or the equivalent in an
20 opportunity grant-eligible program of study, including required related
21 courses. No student may receive opportunity grant funding for more
22 than forty-five credits or for more than three years from initial
23 receipt of grant funds in one or a combination of programs.

24 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 403.** A new section is added to chapter 28B.50
25 RCW to read as follows:

26 (1) To be eligible for participation in the opportunity grant
27 program established in section 402 of this act, a student must:

28 (a) Be a Washington resident student as defined in RCW 28B.15.012
29 enrolled in an opportunity grant-eligible program of study; and

30 (b)(i) Be enrolled on or after January 1, 2008, but before January
31 1, 2010, and have a family income that is at or below two hundred
32 percent of the federal poverty level using the most current guidelines
33 available from the United States department of health and human
34 services;

35 (ii) Be enrolled on or after January 1, 2010, but before January 1,

1 2012, and have a family income that is at or below the state median
2 family income using the state need grant schedule for the same academic
3 year; or

4 (iii) Be enrolled in a qualified institution of higher education on
5 or after January 1, 2012.

6 (2) Upon enrolling, the student must provide evidence of commitment
7 to complete the program. The student must make satisfactory progress
8 and maintain a cumulative 2.0 grade point average for continued
9 eligibility. If a student's cumulative grade point average falls below
10 2.0, the student may petition the institution of higher education of
11 attendance. The qualified institution of higher education has the
12 authority to establish a probationary period until such time as the
13 student's grade point average reaches required standards.

14 (3) Subject to funds appropriated for this specific purpose,
15 qualified institutions of higher education shall receive an enhancement
16 of one thousand five hundred dollars for each full-time equivalent
17 student enrolled in the opportunity grant program whose income is below
18 two hundred percent of the federal poverty level. The funds shall be
19 used for individualized support services which may include, but are not
20 limited to, college and career advising, tutoring, emergency child
21 care, and emergency transportation. The qualified institution of
22 higher education is expected to help students access all financial
23 resources and support services available to them through alternative
24 sources.

25 (4) The college board shall be accountable for student retention
26 and completion of opportunity grant-eligible programs of study. It
27 shall set annual performance measures and targets and monitor the
28 performance at all qualified institutions of higher education. The
29 college board must reduce funding at institutions of higher education
30 that do not meet targets for two consecutive years, based on criteria
31 developed by the college board.

32 (5) The college board and higher education coordinating board shall
33 work together to ensure that students participating in the opportunity
34 grant program:

35 (a) Receive all other state and federal financial aid to which they
36 are entitled while receiving an opportunity grant; and

37 (b) Receive priority for state and federal financial aid when

1 pursuing a subsequent related credential, certificate, or degree at a
2 two or four-year institution of higher education, after completing the
3 opportunity grant program.

4 (6) The college board and higher education coordinating board shall
5 document the amount of opportunity grant assistance and the types and
6 amounts of other sources of financial aid received by participating
7 students. Annually, they shall produce a summary of the data.

8 (7) The college board shall:

9 (a) Begin developing the program no later than July 1, 2007, with
10 student enrollment to begin no later than January 14, 2008; and

11 (b) Submit a progress report to the legislature by December 1,
12 2008.

13 (8) The college board may, in implementing the opportunity grant
14 program, accept, use, and expend or dispose of contributions of money,
15 services, and property. All such moneys received by the college board
16 for the program must be deposited in an account at a depository
17 approved by the state treasurer. Only the college board or a duly
18 authorized representative thereof may authorize expenditures from this
19 account. In order to maintain an effective expenditure and revenue
20 control, the account is subject in all respects to chapter 43.88 RCW,
21 but no appropriation is required to permit expenditure of moneys in the
22 account.

23 OPPORTUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

24 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 404.** A new section is added to chapter 28B.50
25 RCW to read as follows:

26 The college board, in partnership with business, labor, and the
27 workforce training and education coordinating board, shall:

28 (1) Identify job specific training programs offered by qualified
29 postsecondary institutions that lead to a credential, certificate, or
30 degree in high demand occupations, which are occupations where employer
31 demand for workers exceeds the supply of qualified job applicants
32 throughout the state or in a specific region;

33 (2) Gain recognition of the credentials, certificates, and degrees
34 by Washington's employers and labor organizations. The college board
35 shall designate these recognized credentials, certificates, and degrees
36 as "opportunity grant-eligible programs of study"; and

1 (3) Market the credentials, certificates, and degrees to potential
2 students, businesses, and apprenticeship programs as a way for
3 individuals to advance in their careers and to better meet the needs of
4 industry.

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 405.** A new section is added to chapter 28B.50
6 RCW to read as follows:

7 (1) Community and technical colleges shall partner with local
8 workforce development councils to develop the opportunity partnership
9 program. The opportunity partnership program may be newly developed or
10 part of an existing program, and shall provide mentoring to students
11 participating in the opportunity grant program. The program must
12 develop criteria and identify opportunity grant students who would
13 benefit by having a mentor. Each participating student shall be
14 matched with a business or labor mentor employed in the field in which
15 the student is interested. The mentor shall help the student explore
16 careers and employment options through any combination of tours,
17 informational interviews, job shadowing, and internships.

18 (2) Subject to funds appropriated for this specific purpose, the
19 workforce training and education coordinating board shall create the
20 opportunity partnership program. The board, in partnership with
21 business, labor, and the college board, shall determine the criteria
22 for the distribution of funds.

23 (3) The board may, in implementing this section, accept, use, and
24 dispose of contributions of money, services, and property. All moneys
25 received by the board for the purposes of this section must be
26 deposited in a depository approved by the state treasurer. Only the
27 board or a duly authorized representative thereof may authorize
28 expenditures from this account. In order to maintain an effective
29 expenditure and revenue control, the account is subject in all respects
30 to chapter 43.88 RCW, but no appropriation is required to permit
31 expenditure of moneys in the account.

32 **Sec. 406.** RCW 28B.50.030 and 2005 c 258 s 8 are each amended to
33 read as follows:

34 As used in this chapter, unless the context requires otherwise, the
35 term:

- 1 (1) "System" shall mean the state system of community and technical
2 colleges, which shall be a system of higher education.
- 3 (2) "Board" shall mean the work force training and education
4 coordinating board.
- 5 (3) "College board" shall mean the state board for community and
6 technical colleges created by this chapter.
- 7 (4) "Director" shall mean the administrative director for the state
8 system of community and technical colleges.
- 9 (5) "District" shall mean any one of the community and technical
10 college districts created by this chapter.
- 11 (6) "Board of trustees" shall mean the local community and
12 technical college board of trustees established for each college
13 district within the state.
- 14 (7) "Occupational education" shall mean that education or training
15 that will prepare a student for employment that does not require a
16 baccalaureate degree, and education and training leading to an applied
17 baccalaureate degree.
- 18 (8) "K-12 system" shall mean the public school program including
19 kindergarten through the twelfth grade.
- 20 (9) "Common school board" shall mean a public school district board
21 of directors.
- 22 (10) "Community college" shall include those higher education
23 institutions that conduct education programs under RCW 28B.50.020.
- 24 (11) "Technical college" shall include those higher education
25 institutions with the sole mission of conducting occupational
26 education, basic skills, literacy programs, and offering on short
27 notice, when appropriate, programs that meet specific industry needs.
28 The programs of technical colleges shall include, but not be limited
29 to, continuous enrollment, competency-based instruction, industry-
30 experienced faculty, curriculum integrating vocational and basic skills
31 education, and curriculum approved by representatives of employers and
32 labor. For purposes of this chapter, technical colleges shall include
33 Lake Washington Vocational-Technical Institute, Renton Vocational-
34 Technical Institute, Bates Vocational-Technical Institute, Clover Park
35 Vocational Institute, and Bellingham Vocational-Technical Institute.
- 36 (12) "Adult education" shall mean all education or instruction,
37 including academic, vocational education or training, basic skills and
38 literacy training, and "occupational education" provided by public

1 educational institutions, including common school districts for persons
2 who are eighteen years of age and over or who hold a high school
3 diploma or certificate. However, "adult education" shall not include
4 academic education or instruction for persons under twenty-one years of
5 age who do not hold a high school degree or diploma and who are
6 attending a public high school for the sole purpose of obtaining a high
7 school diploma or certificate, nor shall "adult education" include
8 education or instruction provided by any four year public institution
9 of higher education.

10 (13) "Dislocated forest product worker" shall mean a forest
11 products worker who: (a)(i) Has been terminated or received notice of
12 termination from employment and is unlikely to return to employment in
13 the individual's principal occupation or previous industry because of
14 a diminishing demand for his or her skills in that occupation or
15 industry; or (ii) is self-employed and has been displaced from his or
16 her business because of the diminishing demand for the business'
17 services or goods; and (b) at the time of last separation from
18 employment, resided in or was employed in a rural natural resources
19 impact area.

20 (14) "Forest products worker" shall mean a worker in the forest
21 products industries affected by the reduction of forest fiber
22 enhancement, transportation, or production. The workers included
23 within this definition shall be determined by the employment security
24 department, but shall include workers employed in the industries
25 assigned the major group standard industrial classification codes "24"
26 and "26" and the industries involved in the harvesting and management
27 of logs, transportation of logs and wood products, processing of wood
28 products, and the manufacturing and distribution of wood processing and
29 logging equipment. The commissioner may adopt rules further
30 interpreting these definitions. For the purposes of this subsection,
31 "standard industrial classification code" means the code identified in
32 RCW 50.29.025(3).

33 (15) "Dislocated salmon fishing worker" means a finfish products
34 worker who: (a)(i) Has been terminated or received notice of
35 termination from employment and is unlikely to return to employment in
36 the individual's principal occupation or previous industry because of
37 a diminishing demand for his or her skills in that occupation or
38 industry; or (ii) is self-employed and has been displaced from his or

1 her business because of the diminishing demand for the business's
2 services or goods; and (b) at the time of last separation from
3 employment, resided in or was employed in a rural natural resources
4 impact area.

5 (16) "Salmon fishing worker" means a worker in the finfish industry
6 affected by 1994 or future salmon disasters. The workers included
7 within this definition shall be determined by the employment security
8 department, but shall include workers employed in the industries
9 involved in the commercial and recreational harvesting of finfish
10 including buying and processing finfish. The commissioner may adopt
11 rules further interpreting these definitions.

12 (17) "Rural natural resources impact area" means:

13 (a) A nonmetropolitan county, as defined by the 1990 decennial
14 census, that meets three of the five criteria set forth in subsection
15 (18) of this section;

16 (b) A nonmetropolitan county with a population of less than forty
17 thousand in the 1990 decennial census, that meets two of the five
18 criteria as set forth in subsection (18) of this section; or

19 (c) A nonurbanized area, as defined by the 1990 decennial census,
20 that is located in a metropolitan county that meets three of the five
21 criteria set forth in subsection (18) of this section.

22 (18) For the purposes of designating rural natural resources impact
23 areas, the following criteria shall be considered:

24 (a) A lumber and wood products employment location quotient at or
25 above the state average;

26 (b) A commercial salmon fishing employment location quotient at or
27 above the state average;

28 (c) Projected or actual direct lumber and wood products job losses
29 of one hundred positions or more;

30 (d) Projected or actual direct commercial salmon fishing job losses
31 of one hundred positions or more; and

32 (e) An unemployment rate twenty percent or more above the state
33 average. The counties that meet these criteria shall be determined by
34 the employment security department for the most recent year for which
35 data is available. For the purposes of administration of programs
36 under this chapter, the United States post office five-digit zip code
37 delivery areas will be used to determine residence status for
38 eligibility purposes. For the purpose of this definition, a zip code

1 delivery area of which any part is ten miles or more from an urbanized
2 area is considered nonurbanized. A zip code totally surrounded by zip
3 codes qualifying as nonurbanized under this definition is also
4 considered nonurbanized. The office of financial management shall make
5 available a zip code listing of the areas to all agencies and
6 organizations providing services under this chapter.

7 (19) "Applied baccalaureate degree" means a baccalaureate degree
8 awarded by a college under RCW 28B.50.810 for successful completion of
9 a program of study that is:

10 (a) Specifically designed for individuals who hold an associate of
11 applied science degree, or its equivalent, in order to maximize
12 application of their technical course credits toward the baccalaureate
13 degree; and

14 (b) Based on a curriculum that incorporates both theoretical and
15 applied knowledge and skills in a specific technical field.

16 (20) "Qualified institutions of higher education" means:

17 (a) Washington public community and technical colleges;

18 (b) Private career schools that are members of an accrediting
19 association recognized by rule of the higher education coordinating
20 board for the purposes of chapter 28B.92 RCW; and

21 (c) Washington state apprenticeship and training council-approved
22 apprenticeship programs.

23 PART 5

24 PASSPORT TO COLLEGE PROGRAM

25 NEW SECTION. Sec. 501. (1)(a) The legislature finds that in
26 Washington, there are more than seven thousand three hundred children
27 in foster family or group care. These children face unique obstacles
28 and burdens as they transition to adulthood, including lacking
29 continuity in their elementary and high school educations. As compared
30 to the general population of students, twice as many foster care youth
31 change schools at least once during their elementary and secondary
32 school careers, and three times as many change schools at least three
33 times. Only thirty-four percent of foster care youth graduate from
34 high school within four years, compared to seventy percent for the
35 general population. Of the former foster care youth who earn a high
36 school diploma, more than twenty-eight percent earn a GED instead of a

1 traditional high school diploma. This is almost six times the rate of
2 the general population. Research indicates that GED holders tend not
3 to be as economically successful as the holders of traditional high
4 school diplomas. Only twenty percent of former foster care youth who
5 earn a high school degree enroll in college, compared to over sixty
6 percent of the population generally. Of the former foster care youth
7 who do enroll in college, very few go on to earn a degree. Less than
8 two percent of former foster care youth hold bachelor's degrees,
9 compared to twenty-eight percent of Washington's population generally.

10 (b) Former foster care youth face two critical hurdles to enrolling
11 in college. The first is a lack of information regarding preparation
12 for higher education and their options for enrolling in higher
13 education. The second is finding the financial resources to fund their
14 education. As a result of the unique hurdles and challenges that face
15 former foster care youth, a disproportionate number of them are part of
16 society's large group of marginalized youth and are at increased risk
17 of continuing the cycle of poverty and violence that frequently plagues
18 their families.

19 (c) Former foster care youth suffer from mental health problems at
20 a rate greater than that of the general population. For example, one
21 in four former foster care youth report having suffered from
22 posttraumatic stress disorder within the previous twelve months,
23 compared to only four percent of the general population. Similarly,
24 the incidence of major depression among former foster care youth is
25 twice that of the general population, twenty percent versus ten
26 percent.

27 (d) There are other barriers for former foster care youth to
28 achieving successful adulthood. One-third of former foster care youth
29 live in households that are at or below the poverty level. This is
30 three times the rate for the general population. The percentage of
31 former foster care youth who report being homeless within one year of
32 leaving foster care varies from over ten percent to almost twenty-five
33 percent. By comparison, only one percent of the general population
34 reports having been homeless at sometime during the past year. One in
35 three former foster care youth lack health insurance, compared to less
36 than one in five people in the general population. One in six former
37 foster care youth receive cash public assistance. This is five times
38 the rate of the general population.

1 (e) Approximately twenty-five percent of former foster care youth
2 are incarcerated at sometime after leaving foster care. This is four
3 times the rate of incarceration for the general population. Of the
4 former foster care youth who "age out" of foster care, twenty-seven
5 percent of the males and ten percent of the females are incarcerated
6 within twelve to eighteen months of leaving foster care.

7 (f) Female former foster care youth become sexually active more
8 than seven months earlier than their nonfoster care counterparts, have
9 more sexual partners, and have a mean age of first pregnancy of almost
10 two years earlier than their peers who were not in foster care.

11 (2) The legislature further finds that a court may order a
12 noncustodial parent to pay for some or all of their children's
13 reasonable higher education costs. With respect to youth who have been
14 in the foster care system during their adolescent years, and
15 particularly with respect to youth who age out of the foster care
16 system, the state has a duty to these youth that is not less than that
17 of a noncustodial parent.

18 (3) The legislature intends to create the passport to college
19 promise program that will have two primary components, as follows:

20 (a) Significantly increasing outreach to foster care youth between
21 the ages of fifteen and eighteen regarding the higher education
22 opportunities available to them, how to apply to college, and how to
23 apply for and obtain financial aid; and

24 (b) Providing financial aid to former foster care youth to ensure
25 that the entire costs of their public undergraduate college education
26 are paid for.

27 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 502.** The definitions in this section apply
28 throughout this chapter unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

29 (1) "Cost of attendance" means the cost associated with attending
30 a particular institution of higher education as determined by the
31 higher education coordinating board, including but not limited to
32 tuition, fees, room, board, books, and transportation, plus a cost-of-
33 living enhancement equal to fifty percent of the room and board cost
34 for undergraduate students living on campus.

35 (2) "Eligible student" means a student who:

36 (a) Is between the ages of sixteen and twenty-six;

1 (b) Has been in foster care in the state of Washington for a
2 minimum of six months since his or her fifteenth birthday;

3 (c) Is a resident student, as defined in RCW 28B.15.012(2);

4 (d) Has enrolled with or will enroll with an institution of higher
5 education in Washington state by the age of twenty-one;

6 (e) Is making satisfactory progress toward the completion of a
7 degree or certificate program;

8 (f) Has not earned a bachelor's or professional degree; and

9 (g) Is not pursuing a degree in theology.

10 (3) "Independent college or university" means a private, nonprofit
11 institution of higher education, open to residents of the state,
12 providing programs of education beyond the high school level leading to
13 at least the baccalaureate degree, and accredited by the Northwest
14 association of schools and colleges, and other institutions as may be
15 developed that are approved by the higher education coordinating board
16 as meeting equivalent standards as those institutions accredited under
17 this section.

18 (4) "Institution of higher education" means:

19 (a) Any public university, college, community college, or technical
20 college operated by the state of Washington or any political
21 subdivision thereof; or

22 (b) Any other university, college, school, or institute in the
23 state of Washington offering instruction beyond the high school level
24 that is a member institution of an accrediting association recognized
25 by rule of the higher education coordinating board for the purposes of
26 this section: PROVIDED, That any institution, branch, extension, or
27 facility operating within the state of Washington that is affiliated
28 with an institution operating in another state must be a separately
29 accredited member institution of any such accrediting association, or
30 a branch of a member institution of an accrediting association
31 recognized by rule of the board for purposes of this section, that is
32 eligible for federal student financial aid assistance and has operated
33 as a nonprofit college or university delivering on-site classroom
34 instruction for a minimum of twenty consecutive years within the state
35 of Washington, and has an annual enrollment of at least seven hundred
36 full-time equivalent students.

37 (5) "Program" means the passport to college promise program created
38 in this chapter.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 503.** The passport to college promise program is
2 created. The purpose of the program is:

3 (1) To encourage current and former foster care youth to prepare
4 for, attend, and successfully complete higher education; and

5 (2) To provide current and former foster care youth with the
6 educational planning, information, institutional support, and direct
7 financial resources necessary for them to succeed in higher education.

8 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 504.** (1) Institutions of higher education are
9 encouraged to recruit and actively assist current and former foster
10 care youth to attend institutions of higher education. Any institution
11 of higher education that receives funds under this chapter must provide
12 enrolled eligible students with comprehensive guidance regarding the
13 financial aid process.

14 (2) For fiscal year 2008, the office of financial management shall
15 allocate the appropriation made for the purposes of this section
16 between the higher education coordinating board and the state board for
17 community and technical colleges. The allocation shall be based on and
18 in proportion to the historical enrollment of former foster care youth
19 ages sixteen to twenty-six from 2001 to 2006 at the community and
20 technical colleges in Washington state and at the four-year public
21 institutions of higher education in Washington state. Thereafter, the
22 office of financial management shall allocate the funds appropriated
23 for the purposes of this section based on the prior academic year's
24 enrollments of former foster care youth ages sixteen to twenty-six at
25 the community and technical colleges and at the four-year public
26 institutions of higher education.

27 (3) Up to the amount allocated to the state board for community and
28 technical colleges for the purposes of this section, for every eligible
29 student enrolled in a community or technical college in this state who
30 earns forty-five quarter or thirty semester credits, or the equivalent,
31 from a particular community or technical college, the state board for
32 community and technical colleges shall award the college three thousand
33 five hundred dollars. Thereafter, the state board for community and
34 technical colleges shall award the college an additional two thousand
35 five hundred dollars for every additional forty-five quarter or thirty
36 semester credits, or the equivalent, the eligible student earns from
37 the college, until the student has earned ninety quarter or sixty

1 semester college credits, or met other certification or training
2 requirements established by the state board for community and technical
3 colleges.

4 (4) Up to the amount allocated to the higher education coordinating
5 board for the purposes of this section, for every eligible student
6 enrolled at a four-year institution of higher education who earns
7 forty-five quarter or thirty semester credits, or the equivalent, from
8 a particular four-year institution, the higher education coordinating
9 board shall award the institution three thousand five hundred dollars.
10 Thereafter, the higher education coordinating board shall award the
11 institution an additional two thousand five hundred dollars for every
12 additional forty-five quarter or thirty semester credits, or the
13 equivalent, the eligible student earns from the institution, until the
14 student has earned one hundred eighty quarter or one hundred twenty
15 semester college credits.

16 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 505.** (1) The purpose of this section is to
17 provide supplemental scholarships to cover the full, effective, and
18 true cost of attendance for eligible students' undergraduate higher
19 education. However, in no instance shall the annual amount of an
20 eligible student's scholarship under this section exceed the lower of
21 (a) the cost of attendance at the institution of higher education
22 attended by the student, plus an amount equal to fifty percent of the
23 cost of room and board for undergraduate students living on campus as
24 established by the higher education coordinating board, or (b) the
25 resident undergraduate cost of attendance at the University of
26 Washington per academic year for a full-time student, plus an amount
27 equal to fifty percent of the cost of room and board for undergraduate
28 students living on campus as estimated by the higher education
29 coordinating board.

30 (2) The institution of higher education at which an eligible
31 student is enrolled shall award the student all financial aid that he
32 or she qualifies for, including all need-based, merit-based,
33 campus-based, and institutional aid that the student is eligible to
34 receive, but excluding work-study in an amount greater than twenty
35 percent of the student's cost of attendance and student loans.

36 (3) Subject to the limitation set forth in subsection (1) of this
37 section, the institution of higher education at which an eligible

1 student is enrolled shall provide each eligible student with a
2 supplementary scholarship equal to the difference between the student's
3 cost of attendance and the amount of financial aid awarded to the
4 student under subsection (2) of this section.

5 (4) Each institution of higher education providing supplementary
6 scholarships under this section shall submit, at least annually, a
7 request for reimbursement to the higher education coordinating board
8 for the amount of the supplementary scholarships provided to eligible
9 students. The higher education coordinating board shall timely
10 reimburse the individual institutions of higher education for the
11 amount of the supplementary scholarships from funds appropriated to the
12 board for this purpose.

13 (5) A student receiving a scholarship under this section shall be
14 placed on probation if he or she fails to maintain a cumulative grade
15 point average of 2.0 or better. If a student on probation fails to
16 achieve a cumulative grade point average of 2.0 or better within one
17 quarter or semester of being placed on probation, he or she ceases to
18 be eligible to receive scholarship funds under this section until he or
19 she achieves a cumulative grade point average of 2.0 or better.

20 (6) An eligible student is eligible to receive a scholarship under
21 this section for a maximum of five consecutive years after the student
22 first enrolls with an institution of higher education or until the
23 student turns age twenty-six, whichever occurs first. If a student
24 turns age twenty-six during an academic year, and would otherwise be
25 eligible for a scholarship under this section, the student shall
26 continue to be eligible for a scholarship for the remainder of the
27 academic year.

28 (7) The higher education coordinating board shall perform an annual
29 analysis to ensure that those institutions of higher education at which
30 students have received a scholarship under this section during the
31 previous academic year are in compliance with this section, including
32 the requirement that other available sources of financial aid be used
33 before the use of scholarship funds under this section.

34 (8) To allow institutions of higher education to readily identify
35 students who may be eligible for a scholarship under this section, all
36 institutions of higher education shall include on their applications
37 for undergraduate or relevant admission a question asking whether the
38 applicant has been in foster care in Washington state for at least six

1 months since his or her fifteenth birthday. An institution shall not
2 consider whether an applicant may be eligible for a scholarship under
3 this section when deciding whether the applicant will be granted
4 admission to the institution.

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 506.** (1) The state board for community and
6 technical colleges, with input from the higher education coordinating
7 board and institutions of higher education, shall develop and maintain
8 an internet web site and outreach program to serve as a comprehensive
9 portal for foster care youth in Washington state to obtain information
10 regarding higher education including, but not necessarily limited to:

11 (a) Academic, social, family, financial, and logistical information
12 important to successful postsecondary educational success;

13 (b) How and when to obtain and complete college applications;

14 (c) What college placement tests, if any, are generally required
15 for admission to college and when and how to register for such tests;

16 (d) How and when to obtain and complete a federal free application
17 for federal student aid (FAFSA); and

18 (e) Detailed sources of financial aid likely available to eligible
19 former foster care youth, including the financial aid provided by this
20 chapter.

21 (2) The state board for community and technical colleges shall
22 determine whether to design, build, and operate such program and web
23 site directly or to use, support, and modify existing web sites created
24 by government or nongovernmental entities for a similar purpose.

25 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 507.** (1) The department of social and health
26 services, with input from the state board for community and technical
27 colleges, the higher education coordinating board, and institutions of
28 higher education, shall contract with at least one nongovernmental
29 entity through a request for proposals process to develop, implement,
30 and administer a program of supplemental educational transition
31 planning for youth in foster care in Washington state.

32 (2) The nongovernmental entity or entities chosen by the department
33 shall have demonstrated success in working with foster care youth and
34 assisting foster care youth in successfully making the transition from
35 foster care to independent adulthood.

1 (3) The selected nongovernmental entity or entities shall provide
2 supplemental educational transition planning to each foster care youth
3 in Washington state beginning at age fifteen and then at least every
4 six months thereafter. The supplemental transition planning shall
5 include:

6 (a) Comprehensive information regarding postsecondary educational
7 opportunities including, but not limited to, sources of financial aid,
8 institutional characteristics and record of support for former foster
9 care youth, transportation, housing, and other logistical
10 considerations;

11 (b) How and when to apply to postsecondary educational programs;

12 (c) What precollege tests, if any, the particular foster care youth
13 should take based on his or her postsecondary plans and when to take
14 the tests;

15 (d) What courses to take to prepare the particular foster care
16 youth to succeed at his or her postsecondary plans;

17 (e) Social, community, educational, logistical, and other issues
18 that frequently impact college students and their success rates; and

19 (f) Which web sites, nongovernmental entities, public agencies, and
20 other foster care youth support providers specialize in which services.

21 (4) The selected nongovernmental entity or entities shall work
22 directly with the school counselors at the foster care youths' high
23 schools to ensure that a consistent and complete transition plan has
24 been prepared for each foster care youth who emancipates out of the
25 foster care system in Washington state.

26 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 508.** (1) The state board for community and
27 technical colleges shall award one or more awards totaling twenty-five
28 thousand dollars annually, from the appropriation made for this
29 purpose, to the institutions of higher education that have been the
30 most successful, as determined by the board, in recruiting, retaining,
31 and graduating eligible students under this chapter.

32 (2) Institutions that receive an award under this section are
33 encouraged to use the award to further assist former foster care youth
34 in obtaining postsecondary education.

35 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 509.** (1) The state board for community and
36 technical colleges shall monitor and analyze the academic progress of

1 community and technical college students who receive scholarships under
2 this chapter, and shall submit a report regarding the number of
3 community and technical college students who have received scholarships
4 under this chapter and the academic progress of those students to the
5 higher education committees of the senate and the house of
6 representatives by January 15, 2010.

7 (2) The higher education coordinating board shall monitor and
8 analyze the academic progress of students enrolled at four-year
9 institutions of higher education who receive scholarships under this
10 chapter, and shall submit a report regarding the number of students who
11 have received scholarships under this chapter and the academic progress
12 of those students to the higher education committees of the senate and
13 the house of representatives by January 15, 2010.

14 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 510.** Nothing in this chapter may be construed
15 to:

16 (1) Guarantee acceptance by, or entrance into, any institution of
17 higher education; or

18 (2) Limit the participation of youth, in or formerly in, foster
19 care in Washington state in any other program of financial assistance
20 for postsecondary education.

21 **PART 6**

22 **FINANCIAL AID ACCESS AND TRANSPARENCY**

23 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 601.** (1) The higher education coordinating
24 board shall conduct a review of:

25 (a) The current types and amounts of need-based financial aid
26 available to students in Washington from state, federal, and
27 institutional sources, with information on the eligible population for
28 each source; and

29 (b) The level of understanding of available financial aid and
30 requirements for accessing the aid, among high school students, high
31 school parents, and college students.

32 (2) Based on the results of the review, the higher education
33 coordinating board shall develop and propose a plan to:

34 (a) Simplify the delivery of financial aid;

1 (b) Provide easy access to high quality financial aid information;
2 and

3 (c) Address gaps in the financial aid system.

4 (3) The board shall submit its plan to the fiscal and higher
5 education committees of the legislature by November 15, 2007, and shall
6 coordinate its research and development with the state board for
7 community and technical colleges and the superintendent of public
8 instruction.

9 (4) The board may, in carrying out this study, accept, use, and
10 dispose of contributions of money, services, and property. All moneys
11 received by the board for the study must be deposited in a depository
12 approved by the state treasurer. Disbursements of such funds shall be
13 on authorization of the institute or a duly authorized representative
14 thereof. In order to maintain an effective expenditure and revenue
15 control, such funds are subject in all respects to chapter 43.88 RCW,
16 but no appropriation is required to permit expenditure of such funds.

17 (5) This section expires December 31, 2007.

18 **PART 7**

19 **STUDENT TRANSITIONS**

20 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 701.** (1) The work groups convened pursuant to
21 RCW 28B.76.250, as those groups exist on the effective date of this
22 section, shall conduct a review of all approved associate transfer
23 degrees, including the direct transfer agreement. The purpose of the
24 review is to identify credits within each associate transfer degree
25 that, when not considered as part of the associate transfer degree, are
26 not transferable to a state four-year institution of higher education
27 on a stand-alone basis.

28 (2) The work groups shall identify alternatives to ensure that
29 course credits that are transferable to a state four-year institution
30 of higher education as part of an associate transfer degree are also
31 transferable when not part of an associate transfer degree.

32 (3) By January 10, 2008, the higher education coordinating board
33 shall submit to the higher education committees of the house of
34 representatives and the senate a report that identifies credits that do
35 not transfer separately from an associate transfer degree. The report

1 shall also contain information on alternatives to ensure that credits
2 within an associate transfer degree are transferable separately from an
3 associate transfer degree.

4 **Sec. 702.** RCW 28B.76.250 and 2004 c 55 s 2 are each amended to
5 read as follows:

6 (1) The higher education coordinating board must convene work
7 groups to develop transfer associate degrees that will satisfy lower
8 division requirements at public four-year institutions of higher
9 education for specific academic majors. Work groups must include
10 representatives from the state board for community and technical
11 colleges and the council of presidents, as well as faculty from two and
12 four-year institutions. Work groups may include representatives from
13 independent four-year institutions.

14 (2) Each transfer associate degree developed under this section
15 must enable a student to complete the lower-division courses or
16 competencies for general education requirements and preparation for the
17 major that a direct-entry student would typically complete in the
18 freshman and sophomore years for that academic major.

19 (3) Completion of a transfer associate degree does not guarantee a
20 student admission into an institution of higher education or admission
21 into a major, minor, or professional program at an institution of
22 higher education that has competitive admission standards for the
23 program based on grade point average or other performance criteria.

24 (4) During the 2004-05 academic year, the work groups must develop
25 transfer degrees for elementary education, engineering, and nursing.
26 Each year thereafter, the higher education coordinating board must
27 convene additional groups to identify and develop additional transfer
28 degrees. The board must give priority to majors in high demand by
29 transfer students and majors that the general direct transfer agreement
30 associate degree does not adequately prepare students to enter
31 automatically upon transfer. When developing additional transfer
32 degrees, the work groups shall ensure that at least fifteen of the
33 total credits or at least one-half of the elective credits, whichever
34 is greater, that are transferable as part of a transfer degree will be
35 transferable on a course by course basis without the corresponding
36 transfer degree.

1 (5) The higher education coordinating board, in collaboration with
2 the intercollege relations commission, must collect and maintain lists
3 of courses offered by each community and technical college and public
4 four-year institution of higher education that fall within each
5 transfer associate degree.

6 (6) The higher education coordinating board must monitor
7 implementation of transfer associate degrees by public four-year
8 institutions to ensure compliance with subsection (2) of this section.

9 (7) Beginning January 10, 2005, the higher education coordinating
10 board must submit a progress report on the development of transfer
11 associate degrees to the higher education committees of the house of
12 representatives and the senate. The first progress report must include
13 measurable benchmark indicators to monitor the effectiveness of the
14 initiatives in improving transfer and baseline data for those
15 indicators before the implementation of the initiatives. Subsequent
16 reports must be submitted by January 10 of each odd-numbered year and
17 must monitor progress on the indicators, describe development of
18 additional transfer associate degrees, and provide other data on
19 improvements in transfer efficiency.

20 **PART 8**

21 **MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS**

22 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 801.** Part headings and captions used in this
23 act are not any part of the law.

24 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 802.** Sections 501 through 510 of this act
25 constitute a new chapter in Title 28B RCW.

26 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 803.** (1) The sum of three million dollars, or
27 as much thereof as may be necessary, is appropriated for the fiscal
28 year ending June 30, 2008, from the general fund to the office of
29 financial management for the purposes of sections 501 through 510 of
30 this act.

31 (2) The sum of three million dollars, or as much thereof as may be
32 necessary, is appropriated for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2009,
33 from the general fund to the office of financial management for the
34 purposes of sections 501 through 510 of this act.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 804.** Section 402 of this act is necessary for
2 the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or
3 support of the state government and its existing public institutions,
4 and takes effect immediately.

--- END ---